to lack of professionalism in milk marketing and stiff competition from other players in the market including private and multinational companies, the milk marketing in cooperative sector is not keeping pace with the growth rate in the procurement.

Incentives for oilseed production

†4340. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' :
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether it is a fact that the Soyabean Processing Association of India has urged Government to give incentive to increase the production of oilseeds in lieu of coarse cereals;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is a need to give incentive for increasing the production of oilseeds as the production of oilseeds is going down during the last years; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard and the action taken by Government to inspire it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUM DEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) No specific suggestions to give incentive to increase the production of oilseeds in lieu of coarse cereals has been sent to the Government. However, Soyabean Processors Association of India has suggested to increase the area of oilseeds by creating an Oil Development Fund proposed to be financed by levying a cess on imported edible oils.

(c) and (d) In order to increase the production of oilseeds in the country and to induce the oilseeds growers to take up the cultivation of oilseeds on a large scale a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is under implementation. Under the scheme financial assistance is provided to the farmers for production and distribution of seeds, distribution of minikits, rhyzobium culture/ PSB, gypsum/pyrite, improved farm implements, sprinkler sets etc. Besides this for transfer of improved production technology frontline demonstrations by ICAR and block demonstrations by State Department of Agriculture are organized.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.